

Royal Redeemer

CGS Community Discussion Guide

Based on the sermon for July 22-23, 2017:
Ruth



(For use as an opening Devotion, use only the highlighted portion)

- **Begin by sharing a high and/or a low from your week**
- **Connect**
 - Tell about a time when someone was unexpectedly generous to you.
- **Grow** (read this passage aloud and listen for words or phrases that speak into your life now)

*11 But Naomi said, "Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? 12 Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons— 13 would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord's hand has turned against me!" 14 At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her. 15 "Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her." 16 But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. 17 Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me." 18 When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her. **Ruth 1:11-18***

- Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
- What challenges does Naomi face? Has God turned against her?
- When have you faced challenges that made you wonder if God was against you?
- Why do you think Ruth is so determined to stay with her mother in law?
- Who has stayed with you during a difficult time?

13 So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the Lord enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son. 14 The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel! 15 He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth." 16 Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him. 17 The women living there said, "Naomi has a son!" And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

- How has Naomi's life turned around?
- How does Naomi's story contribute to Israel's future?

- **Serve**
 - Who in your life needs your unselfish generosity now?
 - What might be the risk for you?
 - What might you need to respond?

- **End with Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**